

*City of Alexandria, Virginia*

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 2003

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD FROM VIRGINIANS AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR THE CITY'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT.

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**ISSUE:** City Council consideration to accept a grant award in the amount of \$14,550 for the City's Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) for the first year of funding. The funding year is September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004. The grant is a three-year project and funding will continue through 2006.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) Approve the acceptance of the grant to Virginians Against Domestic Violence in the amount of \$14,550 for participation in the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) Project for the first year.

It should be noted that the grant application was due on June 30, 2003. Because City Council does not meet during the summer months, staff submitted the grant application contingent upon City Council's approval in the fall of 2003. We have now been notified that the application was accepted and this was one of 15 programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia to be selected to participate.

**BACKGROUND:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is helping states and communities address violence against women more effectively. In 2003, the CDC funded 14 states to develop and implement prevention activities that can be integrated into Community Coordinated Responses (CCRs) or similar community-based collaborations. A CCR is an initiative that coordinates services and mobilizes communities to respond to and prevent domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) program is adding a prevention focus to the existing CCR model by supporting state domestic violence coalitions to provide prevention-focused technical assistance, training, and funding to local communities. Virginia was one of these 14 states selected to participate and the state coalition, Virginians Against Domestic Violence, requested applications from local domestic violence coordinating councils to be a part of this initiative. On June 3, 2003, the membership of Alexandria's Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) voted favorably to submit an application. DVIP members include representatives from the Office on Women, Victim Witness

Assistance Program, Court Services Unit, Adult Probation and Parole, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, Police Department, Office of Magistrate, Office of Sheriff, and Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Substance Abuse. The agencies work together to ensure that domestic violence is treated as a crime and to provide counseling services for abusers and victims. The project requires a non-profit entity to serve as the project contractor. The Alexandria Friends of the Commission has agreed to this role and has entered into a cooperative agreement with the state coalition and Alexandria's Domestic Violence Intervention Project.

**DISCUSSION:** The purpose of the DELTA Project is to stimulate the implementation of activities to prevent intimate partner violence that can be integrated into existing coordinated community response teams (Alexandria's DVIP). DELTA focuses on preventing first-time perpetration and first-time victimization of intimate partner domestic violence.

Coordinated community response teams will be implementing nationally developed and approved prevention enhancements in their communities. To facilitate this implementation, DVIP may be required to expand its membership or focus; participate in ongoing training; and, develop a plan to sustain the prevention focus beyond the three years of the grant funding.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The amount of \$14,550 will be awarded to the City and passed on to the Alexandria Friends of the Commission over the 12-month period as a project contractor for the following:

- \$7,500 for salary and benefits;
- \$1,260 for travel to quarterly project meetings;
- \$2,600 for supplies to include two 2-hour on-site trainings, support for DVIP meetings, purchase of DELTA resources; and,
- \$3,190 for fourth quarter costs associated with the implementation of prevention enhancements.

In addition, the City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant. These costs include financial and reporting oversight provided by the administering agency, the Office of Management and Budget and the Finance Department. It should be noted that there are no monies available in the City budget to continue these activities once the grant funds are expended. There will be no grant-funded positions associated with this grant. The Office on Women's existing part-time (.75 FTE) Domestic Violence Program Volunteer Developer will assume additional duties as a result of this funding. Those duties will terminate upon the expiration of the grant.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None. The grant application may be reviewed in the Office of Management and Budget, Room 3600, City Hall, during normal business hours.

**STAFF:**

Claire Dunn, Coordinator, Domestic Violence Program  
Lisa Baker, Director, Office on Women